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RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 0061  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1564  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0857

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 001166

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/CE, EUR/ERA, SCA/INSB - ANTHONY RENZULLI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/18/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [PTER](#) [MASS](#) [SOCI](#) [EAID](#) [EUN](#)

CE, GM

SUBJECT: GERMANY SHARES U.S. CONCERNS ON SRI LANKAN IDPS,  
LOOKING TO COORDINATE EU APPROACH

REF: A. STATE 92641

[1](#)B. BERLIN 1132

Classified By: POL-MIL/EXTERNAL CHIEF BILL MOELLER. REASONS: 1.4 (B) AND (D).

[1](#)1. (SBU) After presenting ref A demarche on Sri Lankan IDPs to the MFA Deputy European Correspondent in advance of the September 14-15 EU GAERC meeting (ref B), PolOff followed up to reinforce the points with MFA South Asia Office Director Gudrun Sraega.

[1](#)2. (C) Sraega said that Germany shared U.S. concerns about the IDPs and agreed that the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) should allow IDPs to leave the refugees camps before the start of the monsoon season at the end of September. She said that Sri Lanka needed to present the promised plans for resettlement and demining so that the international community could provide assistance. Sraega reported that Germany had been in talks with the Swedish EU presidency about organizing a coordinated EU message to the GoSL in Colombo and that other like-minded countries would be asked to join as well.

[1](#)3. (C) Sraega noted that Sri Lanka was not discussed at the September EU GAERC meeting, but that it will probably be on the agenda of the next GAERC in late October. PolOff reminded Sraega that because of the onset of the monsoon season at the end of September, getting the GoSL to move on this issue was of the utmost urgency, and expressed the hope that Germany and the EU would act as soon as possible.  
Murphy